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No. 47

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LABOR

JOB PLACEMENT SERVICES TO BE AUTOMATED, STANDARDIZED

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKIY TRUD in Russian No 9, Sep 81 pp 68-75

[Article by T. Nikitina, head of the Job Placement Division of USSR Goskomtrud: "The Work of the Job Placement Service and Its Improvement in the 11th Five-Year Plan"]

[Text] The USSR Goskomtrud [State Committee for Labor and Social Problems], the union republic state labor committees and their local agencies made a special effort to develop the job placement service and heighten its impact during the 10th Five-Year Plan. Their goal was the more efficient use of labor resources by means of the redistribution of these resources strictly according to plan, the reduction of losses connected with manpower transfers and the involvement of the unemployed population in public production. This work became particularly active after the publication of the party and government decrees "On the Improvement of Planning and the Enhancement of the Economic Mechanism's Effect on Production Efficiency and the Quality of Work" and "On the Further Reinforcement of Labor Discipline and the Reduction of Personnel Turnover in the National Economy."

In comparison to the Ninth Five-Year Plan, the number of persons placed in jobs in various branches of the national economy by labor agencies increased more than 1.5-fold, reaching a figure of 12.9 million.

The network of job placement bureaus for the population continued to be developed. These bureaus are now open in all union republics. Their activity extends to 685 cities and rayons in the country, and the proportion accounted for in total placement figures by people who have found jobs with the aid of labor agencies is now 85.8 percent, or 6.5 percent more than in 1976.

The labor agencies of the Ukrainian, Moldavian, Lithuanian, Latvian, Tajik and Uzbek SSR's had the best results in the 10th Five-Year Plan. This was accomplished by the expansion of the network of bureaus and the better organization of their work. In the Latvian SSR, for example, the Riga bureau found jobs for 19,300 people in 1980, or 2,800 (17 percent) more than in 1976. This was accomplished primarily by means of the qualitative reorganization of the bureau's work through the introduction of an automated information system. This strengthened its ties with enterprises and organizations and expanded the volume of information about available jobs and vacancies. The use of video terminals has considerably improved the organization of reception procedures and has motivated more citizens to make use of bureau services.

The bureaus in the cities of Kherson, Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk, Melitopol' (Ukrainian SSR), Samarkand, Namangan, Kokand, Angren, Karshi (Uzbek SSR), Kaunas (Lithuanian SSR), Tiraspol', Bendery, Bel'tsy (Moldavian SSR) and many others have been working successfully. Several bureau employees received government awards for the results of the 10th Five-Year Plan.

In 1980 labor agencies were provided with monthly updates of information about available jobs and vacant positions in various branches of the national economy. As a result of their work with the population, the requests of enterprises and organizations were filled by an average (calculated on a monthly basis) of 24.1 percent. Of the persons placed in jobs, 73.7 percent were workers, most of them with a profession, and 13.7 percent were specialists and employees. The majority (53.9 percent) were of active working age (from 18 to 29) and 63.5 percent were men.

Labor agencies made a special effort to staff new enterprises and the most important existing enterprises. In 1980 the enterprises and facilities on a special list of USSR Gosplan and USSR Goskomtrud were sent 18,800 people (or 45.4 percent of their manpower requirements), which provided them with 95.6 percent of the total staff on the average, and almost 100 percent in the Belorussian, Uzbek, Turkmen, Tajik and Lithuanian SSR's.

The RSFSR Goskomtrud was particularly concerned with finding personnel for enterprises and organizations in the Nonchernozem Zone. In 1979-1980, 229,000 people were sent just to the kolkhozes, sovkhozes and reclamation and construction organizations of this zone. The state assignment was completed ahead of schedule, by 1 July 1980.

In the RSFSR and the Uzbek, Kazakh, Moldavian and Armenian SSR's, priority projects were staffed through the placement of unemployed individuals in line with assignments set for local agencies by republic labor committees. In a number of republics assignments of this kind were also set for the staffing of major existing enterprises. Experience has shown that plan assignments and the regular supervision of their fulfillment guarantee the better organization of work on the local level and better results.

In recent years, labor agencies have done much more to encourage persons engaged in housework and private farming, retired individuals and other segments of the non-working population to enter public production. In the majority of union republics, this work is performed in conjunction with social security, internal affairs and Komsomol organs and other public organizations and consists in finding this segment of the population, collecting and summarizing information about the possibility of placing these individuals in jobs and the purposeful transmission of information to the public on an individual basis (in the home) and with the aid of the mass media. The more precise organization of this work was promoted by the introduction of corresponding indicators in primary records and statistical reports on public employment in 1980. As a result, 367,000 people who had never worked in the national economy entered the public production sphere in 1980. This is equivalent to 12.6 percent of the total number of persons placed in jobs. In conjunction with social security agencies, labor offices encouraged around 300,000 retired individuals to take jobs in national production.

A certain amount of experience in cooperative job placement services by labor and social security agencies has been accumulated in a number of republics. For example, the RSFSR Goskomtrud and RSFSR Ministry of Social Security approved measures for the last five-year plan for the further improvement of the work of social security agencies and labor agencies in the encouragement of retired and disabled persons to take jobs in the national economy in line with the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress. In accordance with these measures, the work of local labor and social security agencies was inspected and the results were discussed at joint meetings. Inspections of this kind were conducted in the Mordovian ASSR and in Orenburgskaya, Tul'skaya, Ryazanskaya, Smolenskaya, Omskaya, Kirovskaya and several other oblasts. In all, during the 5 years 360,000 retired individuals took jobs in the RSFSR economy.

Similar measures were instituted by the Belorussian SSR Goskomtrud in conjunction with the republic Ministry of Social Security and Ministry of Local Industry. Specialists from the republic Goskomtrud and Ministry of Social Security regularly supervised the reservation of jobs for the disabled, the working conditions of retired and disabled persons and the establishment of special shops and divisions at enterprises. Interdepartmental seminars and conferences of enterprise managers and personnel department chiefs were held regularly to discuss problems in the employment of retired and disabled persons. These topics were also discussed in ispolkoms of local soviets of people's deputies.

In a number of republics the ispolkoms of local soviets of people's deputies have organized commissions for the placement of persons not employed in public production or for the placement of retired and disabled individuals, with representatives of labor agencies among the members of these commissions. For example, in Dushanbe (Tajik SSR) commissions of this kind are operating successfully under the supervision of ispolkoms of rayon soviets of people's deputies and are placing these individuals in jobs with a view to their wishes and abilities.

In recent years, labor agencies, in conjunction with enterprises and organizations, have worked more with people of pre-retirement age to encourage them to remain in the production sphere after retirement. The state labor committees of the RSFSR and Ukrainian SSR have been most active in this area. The Central Research Laboratory of Labor Resources of the RSFSR Goskomtrud has drawn up "Practical Recommendations on More Intensive Work with Persons Approaching Retirement Age." Now, for example, more than 40 percent of the persons who reach retirement age remain in the production sphere each year at the State Bearing Plant No 1, Krasnyy Proletariy, Dinamo and Kalibr plants in Moscow and at the Electric Lamp Plant in Tomsk.

Labor agencies in all union republics have taken steps to encourage retired individuals to take jobs in agriculture, particularly during the most tense periods of the sowing and harvesting seasons. For example, in Odesskaya, Voroshilovgradskaya and Khir'kovskaya Oblasts in the Ukrainian SSR the participation of retired individuals in agricultural production covered 40-50 percent of the additional summer manpower requirements.

There are difficulties, however, in the encouragement of retired and disabled persons to enter public production. Experience has shown that effective ways of utilizing their labor on a broader scale in public production include specialized

enterprises, shops and divisions and the offer of chances to work part-time at enterprises of the ordinary type or to work in the home. The greatest opportunities and best prerequisites for this can be found in light and local industry and in the consumer service network. When persons approaching retirement age were surveyed in a number of republics, it turned out that more than 30 percent of the respondents could continue working after retirement if they could work part-time, more than 25 percent could work in their homes and 20 percent could work at specialized enterprises. The network of these specialized enterprises, shops and divisions, however, is growing too slowly, especially in Kazakhstan, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

It appears that labor agencies, working with social security agencies in line with the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers "On Measures To Provide Retired Individuals with Financial Incentives To Work in the National Economy," should analyze the state of affairs in their territories and then submit concrete proposals to ispolkoms of local soviets of people's deputies in regard to the development of these forms of employment.

The timely and total involvement of graduates of secondary general educational schools in public production and the supervision of their adaptation to the production sphere are acquiring increasing significance in the efficient use of labor resources. Commissions for the vocational guidance of students and the placement of young people in jobs have been formed by ispolkoms of local soviets of people's deputies in the union republics. Their activities are coordinated by interdepartmental councils (or commissions) under the jurisdiction of republic ministries of education (or public education). The procedural and organizational supervision of this work is conducted by the interdepartmental procedural council for the vocational guidance of youth of the USSR Ministry of Education. Labor agencies in the majority of union republics are effectively assisting these commissions, providing them with information about the personnel requirements of enterprises and organizations, sending school graduates to work, monitoring the course of their placement, overseeing the preparations made by enterprises and organizations for the employment of youth and verifying the establishment of the necessary conditions for the adaptation of young workers in production. In the Ukrainian, Belorussian, Moldavian and Turkmen SSR's public job placement bureaus are also engaged in finding jobs for schools graduates or sending them to study in vocational and technical institutes.

Labor agencies annually participate, along with Komsomol committees, in all-union inspections of job placement services for school graduates and the use of their labor in production. In the Belorussian SSR, for example, inspections of this kind are organized twice a year: once in April and May to verify the suitability of the training facilities of enterprises for school graduates, and once in August and September to learn the results of the placement of young people in jobs.

More attention is also being given to the quicker placement of school graduates who have not passed the entrance exams for VUZ's and tekhnikums. For the purpose of intensifying this work, a model statute on job placement headquarters for college applicants was approved in 1979. It was drawn up by the Komsomol Central Committee with the aid of USSR Goskomtrud and the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education. Headquarters of this kind have now been opened in all union republics.

According to estimates, approximately 15 percent of all personnel in the national economy are placed in jobs by labor agencies. In cities with placement bureaus the average indicator is around 30 percent, and in some cases the figure is 50 percent or higher.

In 1979-1980, USSR Goskomtrud and the state labor committees of the majority of union republics studied the effectiveness of the work of a number of leading bureaus. The study showed that their mediating activity guaranteed the more efficient redistribution of personnel according to plan, aided in the reduction of losses connected with this redistribution and assisted in the quickest possible staffing of major enterprises and construction projects. In addition, there is also an important social aspect of the matter: Citizens who are placed by bureaus spend less time between jobs, and there is more agreement between their wishes regarding a place of employment and the possibilities of the production sphere, as a result of which more workers stay on the job and less workers change their professions. There is a corresponding reduction in lost wages and in the emotional strife caused by dissatisfaction with work, the need for retraining and other related factors. Therefore, the working public is given additional favorable opportunities to exercise its constitutionally guaranteed right to work.

An analysis conducted in 84 cities of the RSFSR showed that the number of those who were placed in jobs at enterprises and organizations by placement bureaus and who resigned within a year was 12 percent lower on the average than the number of persons who resigned after finding their own jobs. In Samarkand in the Uzbek SSR, however, the number of persons placed in jobs by bureaus and remaining on the job was 21 percent higher than the figure for persons who found jobs on their own. The number of persons changing professions when they change their place of employment is also decreasing (by 5-12 percent according to the data of the Ufa and Kaluga bureaus).

A survey of the population in a number of union republics indicated that 87.2 percent of all respondents were satisfied with the jobs they had chosen with the bureau's aid in 1978-1979, while more than half of those who found their own jobs said that they had experienced difficulty choosing a place of employment and only 52.8 percent were completely satisfied with their final choice.

The vocational guidance of school pupils has been intensified in a number of union republics. Public education departments regularly receive data on the current and long-range personnel requirements of enterprises and organizations, and informational materials (posters, booklets, brochures and so forth) are sent to the schools to publicize the labor professions. For example, the republic job placement bureau of the Latvian SSR compiled a handbook of information about 333 republic enterprises, offering young people 7,950 jobs in 177 professions and indicating their training periods, working conditions and wages. Bureau personnel have written many articles for the republic and local press and have spoken on radio and in the schools. In 1980 the bureau found jobs for 2,300 school graduates.

The state labor committees of the Uzbek, Moldavian and Kirghiz SSR's have opened offices (or centers) for the vocational counseling of youth. For example, an office in Tashkent, opened on an experimental basis, is planning and carrying out vocational information measures and is informing young people of enterprise and

organization requirements for workers of mass professions and the possibility of mastering these professions in the vocational and technical educational system. It is working with concerned ministries and departments on the compilation of "vocationograms" (job descriptions) and on their distribution in general educational schools, interschool work-study combines and vocational and technical institutes. One of its subdivisions specializes in professional recruitment and individual vocational counseling, as well as the study and summarization of data on the job stability of youth and the elaboration of proposals on this basis regarding the more effective vocational and social adaptation of youth to the production sphere.

It is also significant that 82 percent of the respondents who had found their own jobs knew of the bureau's existence but did not make use of its services. Of the persons who were placed by the bureau, 61.5 percent came to the bureau after looking for work on their own. In many cities, especially major industrial centers, the number of persons finding jobs with the bureau's aid is relatively low (no more than 10-15 percent). The main reason is that the population does not know enough about the purpose, principles of methods of the bureau's work and its actual ability to help citizens choose the right job. Such mass information media as the press, radio, television, films and so forth are not being used effectively enough to publicize the job placement service. In some bureaus the reception procedure is inefficient and the inspectors do not specialize in specific branches or groups of professions and are sometimes unable to give citizens qualified information or counseling.

The system of communications between bureaus and enterprises (or organizations) has not been perfected as yet; as a result, the data submitted to bureaus about available jobs and vacancies are incomplete or incorrect, and bureau personnel have to spend a great deal of time clarifying and verifying this information, recording the results of placement work and so forth.

Modern means of communication and office equipment, particularly for the collection, processing and analysis of the records of applicants and information about personnel requirements in the national economy, are not being incorporated quickly enough in the work of bureaus. This is having a negative effect on their operational efficiency. The educational level and professional skills of a number of bureau personnel are still inadequate. Bureau personnel numbered 3,900 in 1980. Only 24 percent had a higher education and 33 percent had a secondary specialized education.

State labor committees and local labor administrations and departments are not paying enough attention to the accuracy and validity of placement reports and to the struggle against formalism in work with the public. The constant and consistent work of the RSFSR Goskomtrud and its local agencies to eliminate the distortion and exaggeration of report figures can be cited as a positive example. The standard forms instituted by the USSR TsSU [Central Statistical Administration] in 1980 at the suggestion of USSR Goskomtrud for public job placement estimates and statistical reports have increased the significance of this work dramatically. The accuracy and validity of bureau estimate and report data must be monitored more closely everywhere. The instructions on filling out statistical report and estimate forms regarding job placement services for the population, which were drawn up and ratified by USSR Goskomtrud with the approval of the USSR TsSU, will be of assistance in this work.

Bureau analytical offices are still not spending enough time on the study of manpower transfer patterns in cities, the structure of personnel requirements in the national economy and the professional makeup of the unemployed population and are not making use of the unique information regularly accumulated in bureaus for these purposes. As a result, local party, soviet and economic organs are not being given enough concrete suggestions about ways of improving the manpower redistribution process and reducing related outlays and losses. Bureaus are still not having the necessary effect on the use of labor resources in cities, especially big cities.

The completion of the assignments for the current 5-year period, as stipulated in the Basic Directions for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR During 1981-1985 and During the Period up to 1990, will necessitate the radical improvement and qualitative reorganization of the job placement service as soon as possible. Specific measures in this area are being planned by USSR Goskomtrud, republic labor committees and ispolkoms of local soviets of people's deputies.

The socioeconomic impact of the job placement system can only be enhanced if the system is made the repository of all information about available jobs and vacant positions in the national economy, as well as reports when these vacancies are filled (by all manpower sources) and reports on personnel availability. These records can only be kept with the aid of modern computers, especially in large industrially developed cities. This is why one of the chief ways of improving the work of bureaus consists in the development and incorporation of automated job placement systems to perform broader informational functions.

At the request of USSR Goskomtrud, the All-Union Scientific Methods Center for the Organization of Labor and Production Management is developing a standardized automated public job placement system (UNAS-Placement) for large industrial cities. The plans are being drawn up by the special planning and design bureau of the Kibernetika Scientific Production Association of the Uzbek SSR Academy of Sciences. It is expected to perform such functions as the processing of report and statistical data on public employment, compile summary reports on the presence of available jobs (or vacancies), choose places of employment automatically for citizens, prepare analytical summaries and statistical reports and so forth. The technical specifications, sketches and blueprints have already been drawn up for the first section of the system. The system will function as part of the unified computer network.

State labor committees have also ordered automated job placement systems for certain cities in Georgia, Latvia, Moldavia and Estonia.

In 1979 and 1980 the first sections of automated systems in Riga, Kishinev and Tomsk were ready for industrial use, and systems in Tallinn and Tula were ready to be tested. The technical design of these systems is based on computers of the second and third generations and can operate in document and dialogue modes. The document mode will be used for the compilation of job vacancy bulletins for bureau personnel. The dialogue mode will be used for the automated choice of jobs for applicants. An experimental test of the automated job placement information system in Riga (AIST) concentrated a considerable quantity of data about enterprise personnel requirements in the bureau. The number of vacancies could reach 100,000. Vacancies are shown on the screen of the video terminal in order of enterprise

priority ratings. Up to 10 priority ratings can be listed, but only 3 are being used now (for example, new enterprises and major enterprises staffed on orders from superior agencies). The system can categorize vacancies according to branches, specialties and so forth. The information is transmitted within 2-5 seconds after it is requested. The machine only operates in the dialogue mode for 1 hour, however, with net machine time of 3-5 minutes. The operation of the system cost the bureau 15,000 rubles in 1980.

A unique automated public job placement system is being developed in the Georgian SSR for the Tbilisi Bureau, where republic directive bodies have ordered that enterprise hiring and firing data be entered on forms developed exclusively for this system in the nature of an experiment. The system will record personnel transfers within the city and monitor the staffing of major enterprises and construction projects.

All of the systems that are now being developed in the union republics are of a local nature, however. Their high operating costs and technical complexity do not allow for their widespread use. An interesting automated system is being designed in Tomsk. Here a microcomputer located in the public job placement bureau will operate in conjunction with the unified computer network in the public computer center. This can lower the operating costs of systems and allow for their more extensive use in the work of bureaus in different types of cities.

For this reason, in addition to completing the development and incorporation of the standard UNAS automated placement system for large cities during the 11th Five-Year Plan, the All-Union Scientific Methods Center and Labor Resource Administration of USSR Goskomtrud will work out the procedural principles governing the choice of effective automated placement systems for different types of cities and will commission designs for other systems.

The use of automated systems in bureaus will allow them to perform a greater variety of functions in line with the stipulations of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decree on the improvement of the economic mechanism, particularly the distribution and redistribution of manpower strictly according to plan and the augmentation of the role of local labor agencies in providing enterprises and organizations with manpower and in finding jobs for available workers. The bureaus could keep records of all the worker and employee requirements of the city or rayon economy and of the progress in the staffing of enterprises and organizations with manpower from all personnel sources. The systems will allow for orderly records of various categories of unemployed individuals and their involvement in public production and vocational counseling, as well as interterritorial information about the national economic demand for workers and employees.

On the basis of these data, the bureaus can regularly study the personnel situation in their cities, keep party, soviet and economic agencies informed of changes in manpower flow patterns, including transfers within individual enterprises, and propose specific ways of improving the organization of personnel redistribution. They can also supervise the organization and formation of groups for temporary or seasonal work whenever the national economic interest dictates this.

In the next few years measures will be taken to improve normative and procedural bases and regulate job placement services in the country. In 1980 USSR Goskomtrud

ratified, with the approval of the AUCCTU, the USSR Ministry of Justice and the USSR Ministry of Finance, a standard statute on bureaus, listing their basic functions and powers in placing citizens in jobs, organizing information about the national economic demand for workers and employees and assisting enterprises experiencing a manpower shortage, particularly new enterprises.

Procedural instructions on the planning of basic job placement indicators for bureaus will be drawn up in 1981-1982, as well as recommendations on the organization of their work.

Measures will be taken for the further improvement of the organization of labor education and the involvement of youth in public production. In this connection, a standard statute will be drawn up on the procedure for the placement of secondary school graduates in jobs. In 1982 USSR Goskomtrud plans to hold all-union inter-departmental conferences on the involvement of youth in public production in conjunction with the AUCCTU, the Komsomol Central Committee, the USSR Ministry of Education and the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education. Labor agencies will also take part in proposing ways of improving the system of vocational guidance for youth in the country.

Proposals regarding the socioeconomic and organizational principles of the construction of a state public job placement system will be drawn up with the aid of the Scientific Research Institute of Labor in 1981-1982.

All of these measures are expected to establish the necessary conditions for the successful accomplishment of tasks connected with the further improvement of the job placement system and the enhancement of its effectiveness through the maximum use of positive experience accumulated in the union republics in the more than 10 years that the job placement bureaus have been operating.

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DEMOGRAPHY

KIRGHIZ PARTY LEADER, WRITER, DISCUSS WOMEN'S ROLE

Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 1 Nov 81 p 3

[Discussion between Galina Ivanovna Poluektova, first secretary of the Sverdlovskiy party raykcom of the city of Frunze, and Mar Baydzhiyev, writer; date and place unspecified]

[Text] In the very important program document of our time which was adopted by the 26th Party Congress--the Basic Directions for the economic and social development of the country for the decade--it is emphasized that it is necessary to create the best conditions for combining motherhood with active participation by women in labor and public work. The editors have asked the writer M. Baydzhiyev who is an attentive student of the fate of modern women and the party worker G.I. Poluektova who has to deal every hour with the affairs of entire "women's collectives" and of individual people to express their opinions about how best to accomplish these tasks.

Poluektova: At the enterprises of our rayon and in its government and party agencies the questions of the professional growth and training, of everyday services, and of the construction of children's preschool institutions are constantly at the center of attention. After all, the rayon contains basically enterprises of the light, local, and food industries at which 90 percent of the workers are women. Most of them are cultured and spiritually developed people who do not conceive of life without active participation in labor and public work. They perform work in the Soviets and in komsomol, trade union, and party bodies. Hundreds of women are competing to fulfill their annual assignments by 7 November, and more than 30 people have come out as initiators of a competition to fulfill the five-year plan in two and one-half years.

Baydzhiyev: I take my hat off to the women workers. But, nevertheless, listening to you there is something that I cannot help but think about. You are a beautiful woman and a mother. But do you yourself not look upon the representatives of your sex solely from the social-production point of view, and is not your respect given only to the initiators of competitions and to active public workers? But the highest title for a woman is the very name woman. A mother produces and edu-

cates an entire generation. The present and future of the world is connected with the health and well-being of the mother....

Poluektova: As it develops, society provides more and more goods for the woman-mother. But you cannot give more than you have! More and more well-built housing is being constructed in the rayon--this year 35,500 meters of housing space will be allocated for the rayon's workers alone. Domestic services enterprises are being built. Today 8,400 children are being educated in the rayon's preschool institutions. But there are still many children who are awaiting their turn to enter nurseries. The need for children's preschool institutions is especially acute at the worsted combine and the "1st of May" factory. And how is a woman to work if her child is not taken care of?

Baydzhiev: It is difficult, of course.

Poluektova: The five-year plan for the social and economic development of the rayon provides for an increase in the rates of housing and cultural and domestic construction. Government and party agencies are keeping its fulfillment under constant control. But there are difficulties, and considerable ones. It is young families which suffer especial hardships on account of the shortage of apartments. Because of housing inconveniences some of them wait for better times to have children. Others limit themselves to one child. A partial solution of this problem is the construction of dormitories for small families, which is now being actively performed in the rayon. Recently house-warmings was celebrated by 85 young families of workers of the worsted combine, and apartments were received by workers from the garment and footwear associations and of the kenaf factory.

Baydzhiev: I have seen apartments like them. They are comfortable.... I believe that the shortage of housing and the difficulties with children's preschool institutions will disappear with time. However, the problems of the working woman will remain basically the same....

Discussion Leader: Excuse me, I remember a monologue of one of the heroes of your comedy "We Are Men." It seems to me that he is expressing your personal attitude? He says: "Yes, a woman has to be loved. You have to love not only her body and her beauty, but also her weaknesses, and you have to give to her everything that you have today, this minute, leaving nothing for tomorrow, for tomorrow there will be other joys. And then he will understand what a woman is. She never gets feelings of envy when things are going well for you, and she will not betray you if things are going badly.... A woman will make sacrifices which no man is capable of, for she is born to sacrifice herself...." The essence of the problems about which you are speaking is in the field of the spiritual and emotional?

Baydzhiev: Probably. I myself see and readers frequently tell me that some men have lightly refused the age-old title of head of the family and the duties connected with it. I do not know whether this is the echo of some temporary process or an external manifestation of deeper currents in social development, but it is an abnormal phenomenon. The man must, no matter what, remain the head of the family. It is his job to protect and help the woman to be a woman. I am by no means calling upon men to put on aprons and go into the kitchen, although these calls are now very fashionable....

Poluektova: And why not call upon them to do so? As is shown by studies which have been conducted by the associates of the republic's Central Statistical Administration, urban husbands have 1.6 times more free time than their wives. While in the country the relationship is almost even.

Baydzhiev: But I do not like aprons.... And the family should be freed from kitchen concerns, at least on days off, by the public catering service, as, for example, in the Baltic republics. Unfortunately, the cooking in the city of Frunze's dining-rooms, cafes, and restaurants is such--not tasty and expensive--that you do not go there to have dinner with your family. I see help for the women in something else. I am in favor of having production records set basically by men. I favor them working and earning more, and providing better for their families so as to give more time to their wives for the children and for themselves. Then women will be more willing to bring children into the world.

Poluektova: This is also what society is trying to do. The measures of state assistance to families with children which are provided for in the recently adopted decree of the CC CPSU, Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, USSR Council of Ministers, and AUCCPU, a sufficient number of children's preschool institutions, the availability of good housing, leave up to a year after the birth of a child (and beginning with 1983 it will be partially paid for), and other measures will substantially improve the demographic situation. And they will make it possible for women to devote more attention to public work and to their spiritual development....

Baydzhiev: Again about public work! Psychologists are now looking more and more seriously into early childhood. Studies show that many negative features--cruelty, an inability to love, indifference to other people--are established at the twilight of consciousness if a child has little contact with its mother and receives insufficient love and affection from her. The human child has to constantly hear the voice of its mother, see her smile, and feel her hands and her odor--in the same way that a tiny, still unopened bud needs the sun. Constant and warm association with the mother--this is the basis of the formation of a pure and generous human soul. Does it not seem to you that in cultivating in women an irrepressible desire for public and professional work society has to some extent neglected to teach them the maternal art?

Poluektova: In the final analysis everything that is done for the professional and spiritual growth of women workers is also related to the performance by them of their maternal duties. According to my observations, the best educators of children are just those women who are also good in production work and who strive for culture. I could cite many as an example but you do not know them. But the name Saginbayeva is known to you at least from the newspapers....

Baydzhiev: No, not from the newspapers, I have known Kanysh since childhood. By the way, she was a funny little girl. When she was studying at the preparatory division of the musical school she was called Malysh. She decided that this is a translation of her name into the Russian language and that is the way she signed her notebooks until I explained things to her.

Poluektova: So Kanysh is also a musician? I did not know. But, you see. An excellent seamstress. Without leaving work she graduated from a light industry tekhnikum. She fulfilled her assignments of the ninth and tenth five-year plans in five years. Now she is a foreman. She is performing important public work as the Deputy Chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet. And, at the same time, she is a tender and caring mother. She has two splendidly brought up daughters. One of them has entered a medical institute.

Baydzhiyev: I also know quite a few such women. But what conclusions follows from this? We have to take much better care of women than we are doing today. They are enormously overloaded with work. They have to be given more love and care. Especially since, according to my observations, the richer and more comfortably we live, the more difficult it is for them. I do not have in mind the hardness of the war and postwar years when things were bad for both young and old. But 20 years ago our mothers had a simpler life.

Poluektova: I doubt that they would agree with you.

Baydzhiyev: When we were small in our house there were really no conveniences. Once a week we were taken to the baths and bathed in a basin. With this the concern for our cleanliness and our health was basically ended. What did my mother need to feel good, and bedressed no worse than others? A warm coat, felt boots, a shawl, and two or three other things.... Today in a modern house with hot and cold water my wife has ten times more cares with the children because a spot on a collar or dirty hands are perceived as violations of the norms of life. I am not mentioning the fact that it is important and necessary for her to know every movement of her children's spiritual lives and to constantly be in their company. Today a women strives for refinement and society's high level makes it possible for them to be as elegant as, I suppose, a French woman. True, too few elegant and beautiful things are produced in our country.

Poluektova: Yes, we--and this is one of the essential tasks for the rayon's enterprises--have to see to it that every item which is produced is made on the level of world standards. But let us return to the problems of a mother. I am in full agreement with the proposals which are being made more and more often to grant women the right to a three-year leave after the birth of a child, although with the present shortage of cadres this would create definite difficulties in production. But this is only possible if a woman has a good family. Unfortunately, this is far from the case for all of them. But the problems of the family are still not being given the attention that they merit in our public, production, and party agencies. Writers, scholars, and journalists also prefer to deal with social-production problems.

Baydzhiyev: And, as a result, one of the chief reasons for incorrect relationships between spouses and an abnormal distribution of responsibilities is profound ignorance in the field of psychology and a lack of preparation for family life. Moreover, from both sides.

Experimental courses are now being introduced in schools to prepare young people for their future roles of husband and wife. This is very good, but instruction,

education, and sometimes urgent help are also needed by adults. In the Baltic for several years now there have been in operation--on a voluntary basis and officially--various counseling services, family assistance services, and clubs. As far as I know, the inhabitants of Frunze read about this with enthusiasm. How many people need them! But what is being done where we live in this direction?

Poluektova: Little.... At the worsted combine they are trying to create such a club.... Work on organizing psychological family assistance still basically has to be begun. I think that the city's komsomol and party agencies have to join in this work and draw scientists, psychologists, sociologists, and doctors into it.

Baydzhiev: And we, writers, must not stand aloof from family problems.

Discussion Leader: Thank you for the discussion. And although you did not agree with each other everywhere, you did speak about the same thing: let the talent, strength, and inspiration of the better half of humanity serve to beautify and develop life and society. And let all of them be healthy, loved, and happy!

2959

CSO: 1830/93

DEMOGRAPHY

TATIMOV OUTLINES MEASURES TO STIMULATE BIRTHRATE

Alma-Ata SOTSIALISTIK QAZAQSTAN in Kazakh 19 Aug 81 p 3

[Article by M. Tatimov, senior research worker at the Philosophy and Law Institute of the KaSSR Academy of Sciences: "The Demographic Policy of Refined Socialism"]

[Text] The care shown families and within them, to mothers and children, is characteristic of the humanitarian nature of socialist society. And it is well known that natural rates of population growth have begun to fall considerably during the refined stage of socialism due to active participation by women in social labor and many other economic circumstances. This process will, in the end, give rise to a labor shortage for the developing Soviet economy. The problem of labor resources will become extremely severe during the 11th and 12th Five Year-Plans as the generation that emerged during the period of rapid demographic growth that took place between 1920-1930 passes out of the labor force and the generation produced during the period of low demographic growth of 1960-1970 begins gradually to enter the labor market. Thus there are objective reasons for carrying out an effective socialist demographic policy in our country. For this reason the 24th, 25th and 26th Congresses of the CPSU have devoted particular attention to this question.

Because of the difficulty of the demographic situation in the Soviet Union, the 25th Congress of the CPSU entrusted Soviet scientists with investigating ways for carrying out a profitable demographic policy. Accordingly a number of complex measures have been carried out as part of an active demographic policy: every kind of consideration is being shown families and major work has been undertaken in the areas of encouraging population growth and regulating profitable use of labor resources and migration and settlement patterns of the people. But much still remains to be done along these lines. Bearing this in mind the 26th Congress of the CPSU pointed out the need to refine the demographic policy further.

Intelligent and well thought out measures have now been taken in hand and carried out energetically and must be considered what the situation calls for. Without a doubt the recently advanced resolutions of the CPSU CC and USSR Council of Ministers "On Measures To Increase State Aid to Families With Children" and "On Measures for the Further Improvement of the People's Social Security" are the most noteworthy.

In short, it has been indicated in these measures that, starting from 1981, the practice will be introduced by rayon of providing paid leave up to 35 rubles for women to care for children at the breast up to the age of 1 year. Later this needed leave will be lengthened until the child is 1 and 1/2 and later 2 years old and able to walk. It is planned to pay a one-time state aid of 50 rubles for the birth of the first child and 100 rubles for the birth of a second or third child and likewise to increase by 3 days leave granted mothers with many children up to the time that the children are 12 years old. At the same time the amount of monetary assistance paid to children with single parents will be increased to 20 rubles in 1981 and will be paid until the children are 16-18 years old. Other facilitations have been introduced along with this assistance. For example, families that have children and low incomes are freed from paying for creches, kindergarten and boarding schools and it has been decided not to collect the childless tax from young couples for a year after they are married. Likewise, new measures have been set forth for expanding children's organizations and improving their work, on giving priority to families with children and young couples in assigning housing and showing additional aid to young mothers and working women.

The new system of the above mentioned demographic policy will have an influence upon limitations of numbers of children in families. In some areas the birth of a second or third child is a major question for a family. Under demographic conditions obtaining in our republic the number of third children is gradually declining. Limitation of third children has even begun to spread to rural areas. It is well understood that increased cultural and material demands of the people and decreased ability to satisfy them are causes of a falling birthrate. Young families, for example, have begun to experience difficulties in housing, living standards, free time and kindergarten with the birth of a second or third child. For this reason care on the part of the state for third children in particular must be strengthened in the future. And additional aid for fourth and additional children must be retained.

The effectiveness of the demographic policy now being carried out must be judged not only in terms of the financial aid given families to raise children but also in terms of how all-embracing it is. The reason is that family life and the question of raising children in particular are directly connected with daily living conditions. The demographic policy is directly connected with the social, economic and spiritual needs of society. For example, considerable attention must be devoted to mothers actively participating in social labor on the part of the managements of each industry and enterprise. Today we know of many distinguished mothers of this sort who are raising many children while actively participating in labor. The number of honored mothers that have raised seven or more children has reached 104,000 in Kazakhstan and mothers with many children 283,000.

The efficient measures of the demographic policy will not only increase the living standards of the people but also fill out the labor resources of the people in the future. The fundamental goal of the policy is to protect and increase families and guarantee population growth.

The party has felt it necessary to take heed of the peculiarities of each republic in the demographic development of Soviet society as a whole. Rapid growth of population and abundant labor resources place Kazakhstan, with its very broad potential for economic development, in an extremely good position. Comrade D.A. Kunayev, giving the problem his special attention, spoke as follows concerning the economic and social development of the republic in his report to the 15th Congress of the Kazakhstan CP: "The population of the republic now exceeds 15 million. This is cause for rejoicing but we are lagging in growth compared to what is foreseen in the demographic policy." And in truth we cannot help but be concerned about a declining population growth rate for Kazakhstan as a whole in recent years.

In order to increase the effectiveness of the demographic policy and attain basic success its goals must be broadly propagandized among the people. A useful social concept on and civic views must be brought into being in this area. Reasonable relationships for the demographic development of our Soviet society must above all begin with the family and be absorbed through the family. The providing of detailed guidelines in the above mentioned resolutions on the production of substantial literature on demography, the family, happy marriages and the education of children must not be to no purpose.

Much has to be done. Whereas setting up a household, forming a family and raising children were once considered an individual's business we now realize that these questions have a larger social significance. The family is the basic social unit, the pivot of social life and the basis for developing a people and forming a nation. This must never be forgotten.

The present demographic policy is scientifically based and must be carried out in direct association with general tasks providing social and economic guidance for society.

11,433
CSO: 1832/108

DEMOGRAPHY

POPULATION CHANGES, MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES LISTED

MOSCOW VESTNIK STATISTIKI in Russian No 11, Nov 81 pp 60-74

[Charts: "All-Union Census"]

Distribution of Families by Types and Size for the USSR and Union Republics

COMPOSITION OF FAMILIES*

	Number of Families	Families Consisting of the Following People Living Together					Average Size of Family
		2 people	3 people	4 people	5 people	6 people	
1955h							
All families.....	66,307,213	19,663,525	19,122,843	15,239,485	6,311,510	2,761,163	3,223,707
Of these-families:							
Having one married couple, with or without children	43,826,022	13,050,645	16,618,265	11,086,364	2,625,116	1,036,761	3,3
Having one married couple, with or without children and with one of the married partner's parents.....	5,403,664	—	1,070,116	1,827,293	1,630,382	462,184	4,6
Having one married couple, with or without children with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with other relatives.....	3,385,192	—	634,050	1,067,414	848,925	413,238	4,8
Having two or more married couples, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with (or without) other relatives.....	2,826,997	—	—	363,752	909,211	703,890	6,3
Mothers (fathers) with children.....	7,857,003	5,016,525	1,614,596	376,821	110,832	64,156	3,6
Others.....	3,006,335	996,355	1,190,816	341,864	167,046	60,914	4,1
1955h							
All families.....	36,726,389	11,008,393	11,589,262	8,287,825	3,168,855	1,092,483	3,791
Of these-families:							
Having one married couple, with or without children	26,190,155	7,540,386	8,949,289	6,156,686	1,111,314	313,847	3,1
Having one married couple, with or without children and with one of the married partner's parents.....	3,015,085	—	612,840	1,133,046	920,632	211,321	4,4
Having one married couple, with or without children with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with other relatives.....	1,677,032	—	363,963	603,321	452,033	179,478	4,5
Having two or more married couples, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with (or without) other relatives.....	1,277,694	—	—	206,869	521,022	343,550	5,6
Mothers (fathers) with children.....	4,659,149	3,475,146	926,458	175,568	49,760	19,668	2,3
Others.....	1,745,474	572,861	734,692	312,137	85,294	25,619	3,0

*Continuation of publication of the results of the Census (for the beginning see "STATISTIKI" No 2, 6-12, 1981; No 1, 2, 4, 5, 1981).

Distribution of Families by Types and Size for the USSR and Union Republics

	Number of Families	Families Consisting of the Following People Living Together					Average Size of Family
		2 people	3 people	4 people	5 people	6 people	
<i>Uzbekistan:</i>							
All families.....	11,431,865	4,436,171	3,939,194	3,174,862	1,221,076	439,369	211,611
Of those-families:							3.1
Having one married couple, with or without children	8,940,281	3,112,439	2,995,394	2,286,792	~1,1,630	92,391	36,125
Having one married couple, with or without children and with one of the married partner's parents.....	1,181,294	...	272,677	415,140	101,520	86,808	27,350
Having one married couple, with or without children with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with other relatives.....	628,729	...	166,808	228,854	161,505	64,608	26,934
Having two or more married couples, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with (or without) other relatives.....	604,253	92,187	234,435	181,990	95,661
Neither (fathers) with children.....	1,469,792	1,116,936	287,933	49,250	10,592	3,380	1,701
Others.....	585,503	206,798	218,582	102,329	27,390	7,170	3,036
<i>Belorussian SSR:</i>							
All families.....	2,527,274	806,018	737,226	633,868	232,801	76,083	39,236
Of those-families:							3.3
Having one married couple, with or without children	1,890,971	584,127	588,370	512,632	119,197	30,325	16,124
Having one married couple, with or without children and with one of the married partner's parents.....	175,446	...	34,962	53,931	60,476	18,996	7,063
Having one married couple, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with other relatives.....	90,617	...	72,506	31,026	23,966	9,176	3,963
Having two or more married couples, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with (or without) other relatives.....	60,677	9,490	22,344	17,584	11,259
Neither (fathers) with children.....	265,219	189,647	59,466	12,094	2,751	681	380
Others.....	86,340	32,244	31,724	16,695	4,069	1,121	487

Distribution of Families by Types and Size for the USSR and Union Republics

	Number of Families	Families Consisting of the Following People Living Together					Average Size of Family
		2 people	3 people	4 people	5 people	6 people	
Urban SSSR	2,667,493	355,570	379,281	412,417	333,101	295,490	651,914
All families							5.1
Of these-families							
Having one married couple, with or without children	1,574,276	213,767	252,249	301,600	205,276	176,889	417,475
Having one married couple, with or without children and with one of the married partner's parents.....	212,047	—	17,696	32,771	37,502	29,197	96,881
Having one married couple, with or without children with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with other relatives.....	213,916	—	20,317	35,701	38,988	37,108	101,802
Having two or more married couples, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with (or without) other relatives.....	280,721	—	—	9,459	23,196	33,430	214,606
Mothers (fathers) with children.....	240,927	111,971	55,117	30,363	18,011	12,101	13,362
Others.....	105,606	29,012	28,902	20,191	10,130	6,765	9,806
Kazakh SSR							
All families	1,293,870	696,636	612,999	776,914	400,605	223,193	165,911
Of these-families:							
Having one married couple, with or without children	2,125,150	444,060	602,443	578,904	212,016	104,556	103,167
Having one married couple, with or without children and with one of the married partner's parents.....	260,313	—	35,402	61,182	70,181	33,978	59,590
Having one married couple, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with other relatives.....	249,463	—	32,436	57,582	58,382	39,015	61,846
Having two or more married couples, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with (or without) other relatives.....	134,232	—	—	12,680	29,671	28,938	62,943
Mothers (fathers) with children.....	374,642	212,094	92,094	33,671	16,348	9,704	9,951
Others.....	190,038	59,700	30,624	30,895	13,805	7,002	8,012

Distribution of Families by Types and Size for the USSR and Union Republics

	Number of Families	Families Consisting of the Following People Living Together					Average Size of Family
		2 people	3 people	4 people	5 people	6 people	
Georgian SSR							
All families.....	1,350,836	243,199	228,765	267,510	192,763	112,413	86,706
Of three-families:							
Having one married couple, with or without children	656,310	142,100	136,011	208,359	90,987	36,717	17,916
Having one married couple, with or without children and with one of the married partner's parents.....	105,130	—	11,758	23,311	37,393	21,930	10,538
Having one married couple, with or without children with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with other relatives.....	95,846	—	11,537	22,690	26,685	20,365	16,367
Having two or more married couples, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with (or without) other relatives.....	102,420	—	—	8,303	20,271	31,901	41,940
Others (fathers) with children.....	119,121	74,410	29,736	10,646	2,934	930	465
Others.....	70,011	26,685	19,703	12,599	5,990	2,550	1,280
Armenian SSR							
All families.....	1,102,712	165,270	161,194	191,110	160,003	141,387	275,668
Of three-families:							
Having one married couple, with or without children	677,269	92,916	101,196	132,042	107,282	87,941	153,392
Having one married couple, with or without children and with one of the married partner's parents.....	84,721	—	7,602	12,857	17,261	16,107	12,894
Having one married couple, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with other relatives.....	94,029	—	8,916	15,526	18,696	17,547	23,373
Having two or more married couples, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with (or without) other relatives.....	68,572	—	—	3,728	6,429	12,231	43,986
Others (fathers) with children.....	123,256	55,253	28,578	16,910	10,182	6,160	6,153
Others.....	54,836	17,107	14,902	10,047	5,533	3,381	3,872

Distribution of Families by Types and Size for the USSR and Union Republics

	Number of Families	Families Consisting of the Following People Living Together					Average Size of Family
		2 people	3 people	4 people	5 people	6 people	
Lithuanian SSR:							
All families.....	901,024	286,928	262,989	228,594	82,117	26,357	16,059
Of those-families:							
Having one married couple, with or without children	655,979	199,416	206,120	184,773	25,953	12,595	7,122
Having one married couple, with or without children and with one of the married partner's parents.....	56,646	—	11,173	10,717	20,668	5,000	1,686
Having one married couple, with or without children with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with other relatives.....	13,645	—	9,158	11,121	8,071	3,539	1,796
Having two or more married couples, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with (or without) other relatives.....	14,157	—	—	2,203	4,815	4,228	2,911
Mothers (fathers) with children.....	106,846	73,318	25,063	6,026	1,585	533	321
Others.....	33,773	14,194	11,475	5,754	1,625	462	263
Poldavian SSR							
All families.....	1,024,397	315,270	289,027	236,823	101,266	44,298	37,713
Of those-families:							
Having one married couple, with or without children	782,912	234,451	235,707	193,146	66,371	27,870	25,367
Having one married couple, with or without children and with one of the married partner's parents.....	43,255	—	10,214	14,991	12,180	3,576	2,294
Having one married couple, with or without children with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with other relatives.....	33,411	—	8,092	11,228	7,943	3,574	2,574
Having two or more married couples, with or without children, with (or without) one of the married partner's parents, and with (or without) other relatives.....	28,540	—	—	4,824	10,162	7,384	6,178
Mothers (fathers) with children.....	109,063	71,086	24,645	8,011	3,078	1,310	905
Others.....	27,208	9,733	10,369	4,623	1,532	556	395

I. MOVEMENT OF THE POPULATION IN THE USSR

1. NUMBER OF MEN AND WOMEN ON 1 JANUARY 1981

	Entire population, thousands of people	Of those		As a percentage of the entire population	
		Men	Women	Men	Women
USSR.....	266,599	124,510	142,089	46.7	53.3
RSFSR.....	139,165	64,348	74,817	46.2	53.8
Ukrainian SSR.....	50,134	22,972	27,162	45.8	54.2
Belorussian SSR.....	9,675	4,503	5,172	46.5	53.5
Uzbek SSR.....	16,158	7,941	8,217	49.1	50.9
Kazakh SSR.....	15,053	7,266	7,787	48.3	51.7
Georgian SSR.....	5,071	2,386	2,685	47.0	53.0
Azerbaijan SSR.....	6,202	3,023	3,179	48.7	51.3
Lithuanian SSR.....	3,446	1,624	1,822	47.1	52.9
Moldavian SSR.....	3,995	1,885	2,110	47.2	52.8
Latvian SSR.....	2,539	1,171	1,368	46.1	53.9
Kirghiz SSR.....	3,653	1,778	1,875	48.7	51.3
Tajik SSR.....	4,007	1,979	2,028	49.4	50.6
Armenian SSR.....	3,119	1,520	1,599	48.7	51.3
Turkmen SSR.....	2,897	1,426	1,471	49.2	50.8
Estonian SSR.....	1,485	688	797	46.3	53.7

2. BIRTH AND DEATH RATE AND REAL GROWTH OF THE POPULATION

Years	Per 1,000 people		
	Number of Births	Number of Deaths	Real Growth
1979	18.2	10.1	8.1
1980	18.3	10.3	8.0

3. DISTRIBUTION OF THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS AND THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED MARRIAGES BY MONTH IN 1980 (Thousands)

	Number of Births	Number of Deaths	Number of Registered Marriages
Total.....	4,851.4	2,743.8	2,724.6
For the months:			
January.....	414.3	299.9	189.9
February.....	378.5	226.7	207.8
March.....	422.9	235.1	200.7
April.....	418.9	222.0	250.5
May.....	426.2	232.3	184.0
June.....	412.3	214.5	214.5
July.....	431.8	218.2	243.1
August.....	410.6	207.4	319.5
September.....	379.8	207.5	246.4
October.....	386.5	222.8	225.7
November.....	381.7	222.5	241.4
December.....	387.9	234.9	201.1

4. DISTRIBUTION OF THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF THEIR BIRTH

Number of Births, Thousands	Order of Birth										
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	Ninth	Tenth or More	Not Indicated
4851.4	2272.8	1502.8	463.9	215.2	137.5	86.1	58.7	42.7	29.0	36.8	5.9

5. BIRTH RATE INDICATORS BY AGE IN URBAN SETTLEMENTS AND RURAL LOCALES
 (Number of Births per 1,000 Women of the Corresponding Age Group)

	1979 - 1980		
	In all	In particular	
		City	Village
15 to 49 years old*	70.5	60.5	91.9
In particular of the age:			
Younger than 20**	40.9	37.9	46.1
20-24.....	177.3	150.8	240.6
25-29.....	123.7	104.2	173.0
30-34.....	68.3	54.7	107.0
35-39.....	29.8	18.9	52.5
40-44.....	10.2	4.9	20.8
45-49.....	1.5	0.4	3.2

6. DEATH RATE INDICATORS BY AGE FOR UNION REPUBLICS DURING 1979-1980
 (Number of Births per 1,000 Women of the Corresponding Age Group)

	15-49 years old*	Of the age:						
		Younger than 20**	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
USSR.....	70.5	40.9	177.3	123.7	68.3	29.8	10.2	1.5
RSFSR.....	59.6	42.7	157.1	101.2	52.5	18.4	5.1	0.4
Ukrainian SSR.....	57.9	47.8	166.1	102.4	52.6	18.1	4.6	0.3
Belorussian SSR.....	61.4	31.4	173.9	116.0	59.0	21.2	5.5	0.3
Uzbek SSR.....	148.9	35.3	276.9	271.8	202.5	122.7	60.4	11.4
Kazakh SSR.....	93.8	38.8	203.0	158.0	102.4	58.5	23.5	3.5
Georgian SSR.....	68.5	47.8	181.1	121.9	66.3	24.0	7.6	1.4
Azerbaijan SSR.....	98.3	18.2	193.4	217.4	134.4	69.0	29.2	4.2
Lithuanian SSR.....	58.6	27.6	154.8	116.5	62.7	30.8	9.2	0.6
Moldavian SSR.....	75.2	39.5	190.7	128.7	76.9	30.6	9.1	0.9
Latvian SSR.....	54.1	37.7	152.3	104.0	53.7	22.7	5.4	0.2
Kirghiz SSR.....	127.4	40.6	265.2	213.8	145.3	102.5	47.3	11.8
Tajik SSR.....	167.3	37.0	311.2	292.2	232.0	168.8	87.2	23.6
Armenian SSR.....	83.8	43.9	203.1	137.1	61.2	21.7	8.2	1.4
Turkmen SSR.....	150.2	20.6	250.1	281.8	222.1	154.2	80.4	17.3
Estonian SSR.....	59.0	43.2	166.1	110.6	54.6	22.2	5.3	0.2

*Including births among mothers of an older age.

**The number of women 15 to 19 years of age was conditionally taken when determining the relative indicators of this age group.

**7. DEATH RATE OF THE POPULATION FROM DISORDERS
OF THE CIRCULATION SYSTEM IN 1979 AND 1980**

	Number of Deaths, thousands		Number of Deaths per 100,000 Inhabitants	
	1979	1980	1979	1980
All deaths from all reasons.....	2665.9	2743.8	1012.0	1033.3
In particular from disorders of the circulation system.....	1390.7	1441.5	527.9	542.8
Of those:				
From arteriosclerotic cardio- sclerosis.....	578.9	599.4	219.8	225.7
From hypertension disorders (all forms).....	223.6	233.4	84.9	87.9
In particular:				
With vascular disorders of the brain.....	149.2	150.6	56.6	56.7
With an infarct of the myocar- dium.....	10.8	10.9	4.1	4.1
From vascular disorders of the brain without hypertension disorders.....	288.9	294.6	109.7	110.9
From other forms of ischemic disorders of the heart and an infarct of the myocardium (without a hypertension dis- order).....	180.5	189.0	68.5	71.2
In particular from an infarct of the myocardium.....	62.2	62.4	23.6	23.5
From active rheumatism and chronic rheumatic disorders of the heart.....	27.0	26.8	10.2	10.1
From other disorders of the circulation system.....	91.8	98.3	34.8	37.0

**8. DEATH RATE OF THE POPULATION
FROM MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS IN 1979 AND 1980**

	Number of Deaths, thousands		Number of Deaths per 100,000 Inhabitants	
	1979	1980	1979	1980
All deaths from all reasons.....	2665.9	2743.8	1012.0	1033.3
In particular from malignant neoplasms.....	366.4	371.8	139.1	140.0
Of those:				
Nodules in the mouth and throat..	6.3	7.0	2.4	2.6
In the esophagus.....	14.8	15.0	5.6	5.7
In the stomach.....	91.2	88.5	34.6	33.3
In the intestines excluding the rectum.....	16.1	16.6	6.1	6.3
In the rectum.....	16.8	17.1	6.4	6.4
In other digestive organs.....	28.9	29.4	11.0	11.1
In the larynx.....	6.5	7.0	2.5	2.6
In the bronchi, trachea, lungs...	66.7	68.8	25.3	25.9
In other respiratory organs.....	1.7	2.0	0.6	0.8
In the mammary glands.....	19.4	20.3	7.4	7.6
In the cervix of the uterus.....	12.2	12.1	4.6	4.6
Other malignant neoplasms of the uterus.....	8.0	8.1	3.0	3.1
In other female reproductive organs.....	12.0	12.1	4.6	4.6
In the prostate glands.....	4.7	5.0	1.8	1.9
In other male reproductive organs	0.9	1.0	0.3	0.4
In the urinary glands.....	12.5	13.3	4.8	5.0
In the skin.....	3.2	3.5	1.2	1.3
In bones and connective tissue...	4.0	4.2	1.5	1.6
Leukemia.....	11.5	11.6	4.4	4.3
Other neoplasms of the lymphatic and hemogenic tissue.....	8.4	8.4	3.2	3.1
Others and undefined locations...	20.6	20.8	7.8	7.8

**9. DISTRIBUTION BY AGE IN 1980 OF THOSE WHO ARE
ENTERING MARRIAGE FOR THE FIRST TIME (thousands)**

	Number Entering Marriage		Those Entering Marriage for the First Time	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
All those entering marriage.....	2724.6	2724.6	2272.2	2311.0
At the age of:				
Younger than 20.....	147.5	756.1	147.1	752.2
20-24.....	1546.0	1226.2	1502.9	1157.5
25-29.....	516.5	328.4	414.3	227.0
30-34.....	176.7	135.1	94.4	62.4
35-39.....	71.0	53.6	26.6	18.0
40-44.....	81.7	65.9	23.9	19.8
45-49.....	44.7	40.1	12.5	14.3
50-54.....	46.2	44.9	13.8	20.3
55-59.....	27.3	30.0	9.8	15.0
60 and older.....	66.8	44.0	26.7	24.2
Age unknown.....	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3

**10. MARRIAGES BY AGE OF THE BRIDE AND BRIDEGROOM IN 1980
(thousands)**

Age of Bride	Age of Bride- groom	At the age of										
		All those entering marriage	Younger than 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and older
All those en- tering mar- riage.....	2724.6	756.1	1226.2	328.4	135.1	53.6	65.9	40.1	44.9	30.0	44.0	0.3
At the age of:												
Younger than 20.....	147.5	105.5	39.3	2.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--	--	0.0
20-24.....	1546.0	568.2	877.5	89.6	9.5	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
25-29.....	516.5	75.1	256.6	143.7	35.0	4.4	1.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
30-34.....	176.7	6.3	42.8	65.7	46.0	10.1	4.8	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
35-39.....	71.0	0.7	6.3	15.9	21.8	13.0	10.1	2.4	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0
40-44.....	81.7	0.2	2.8	8.4	16.8	15.8	24.4	8.9	3.7	0.6	0.1	0.0
45-49.....	44.7	0.1	0.5	1.8	3.8	5.8	13.2	10.7	6.9	1.6	0.3	0.0
50-54.....	46.2	0.0	0.3	0.6	1.4	2.7	8.5	10.7	15.1	5.6	1.3	0.0
55-59.....	27.3	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.7	2.1	3.8	9.7	7.6	2.8	0.0
60 and older	66.8	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.2	2.5	8.7	14.4	39.4	0.0
Age unknown	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1

11. NUMBER OF REGISTERED DIVORCES DISTRIBUTED ACCORDING TO THE LENGTH OF THE MARRIAGES AND AGE OF THE HUSBAND AND WIFE IN 1980 (thousands)

	Total Registered Divorces	Length of Marriage, Years						
		Less than 1 year	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-19	20 and more	Unknown
Total.....	929.6	33.2	145.7	160.0	253.7	215.7	117.3	4.0
At the age of:								
Younger than 20								
Men.....	1.6	0.5	1.1	—	—	—	—	0.0
Women.....	14.9	4.1	9.7	1.0	—	—	—	0.1
20-24								
Men.....	111.5	12.3	56.5	34.4	7.9	—	—	0.4
Women.....	193.1	12.7	73.2	73.9	32.6	—	—	0.7
25-29								
Men.....	241.6	8.5	46.6	76.3	101.2	8.2	—	0.8
Women.....	230.5	6.6	29.9	48.0	123.0	22.3	—	0.7
30-34								
Men.....	185.2	4.2	17.6	24.4	88.5	49.8	—	0.7
Women.....	160.1	3.5	13.5	17.2	55.8	69.6	—	0.5
35-39								
Men.....	101.0	1.9	6.9	8.3	22.0	58.2	3.4	0.3
Women.....	86.7	1.5	5.4	6.3	15.0	50.4	7.8	0.3
40-44								
Men.....	125.4	2.1	7.0	7.7	18.2	65.8	24.0	0.6
Women.....	109.9	1.7	5.7	6.2	14.2	46.5	34.9	0.7
45-49								
Men.....	63.6	1.0	3.1	3.2	6.5	17.2	32.1	0.5
Women.....	52.1	0.9	2.7	2.7	5.2	13.4	26.8	0.4
50-54								
Men.....	51.4	0.9	2.7	2.5	4.5	9.3	31.1	0.4
Women.....	44.9	0.9	2.6	2.4	4.2	7.7	26.8	0.3
55-59								
Men.....	21.8	0.5	1.3	1.2	1.9	3.3	13.4	0.2
Women.....	21.2	0.6	1.4	1.2	1.9	3.3	12.7	0.1
60 and older								
Men.....	25.4	1.2	2.8	1.8	2.7	3.7	13.1	0.1
Women.....	15.0	0.7	1.5	0.9	1.5	2.2	8.1	0.1
Age not indicated								
Men.....	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.0
Women.....	1.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1

DEMOGRAPHY

NEW MODEL FOR REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC PREDICTIONS OFFERED

Novosibirsk IZVESTIYA SIBIRSKOGO OTDELENIYA AKADEMII NAUK SSSR: SERIYA OБSHCHES-TVENNYKH NAUK in Russian No 11, Issue 3, Sep 81 pp 167-171

[Article by V.M. Alferov: "Socio-Demographic Forecasting in the System of Regional Planning"]

[Text] One of the most interesting and important problems facing economic science today is an improvement of the methodology of territorial planning. The accomplishment of this task encounters difficulties connected with the intercoordination of productive forces siting plans and labor power reproduction forecasts. The present article is devoted to the problems of taking account of certain qualitative characteristics of labor resources when making up long-term plans and forecasts for the development of individual regions of the country.

Peculiarities of Regional Demographic Forecasting

In the early 1960's, in connection with the working up of regional hypotheses for the development of the productive forces, work was begun on composing regional demographic forecasts. The very first results in this direction showed that demographically an individual territorial unit is sharply different from the country as a whole. A large amount of literature is devoted to an analysis of these differences.¹

To generalize briefly, it can be said that on the national economic level the reproduction of the population is rigidly given, since it is determined solely by the birth and death rates, processes which have not yet been sufficiently studied and, therefore, which do not lend themselves to directional management. This characteristic of the country's demographic development markedly simplifies the scheme of national economic planning. When the state plan is made up at the first stage the total size of the population and the size of the individual sex and age groups is calculated. This serves as the basis for determining future material needs and the presumed amount of labor resources.

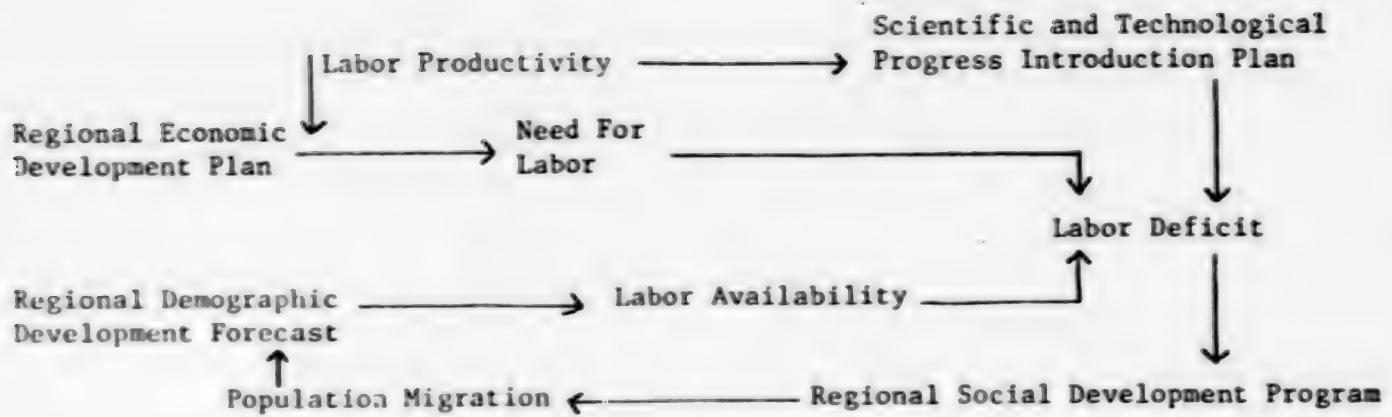


Diagram for the Planning of Labor Resources in a Region

A different situation occurs with planning on a regional level. In this case, the demographic situation is determined not only by natural but also by mechanical population movement. For this reason, a presumed deficit of labor resources in a region can be eliminated not only on the basis of increasing labor productivity, but also by means of attracting additional labor power from regions in which its use is less efficient. On the basis of these considerations, Ye.D. Malinin² proposed a diagram for the territorial planning of labor resources.

It appears clear that the vast majority of writers agree in principle with the above diagram. The differences, and sometimes fundamental ones, arise in the attempt to single out the factors which determine population migration. We shall not reproduce the entire discussion here which already has a history of more than a decade, but shall only point to one important comment by I.S. Matlin: "In order to obtain high coefficients for a multiple correlation use is made of a set of factors the prediction of whose future values is either completely impossible, or itself represents an independent difficult problem."³ The use of the proposed diagram presupposes the creation of a migration model that satisfies certain requirements. This kind of model need not describe the full depth of the theoretical concepts of the process of territorial migrations. But it is absolutely essential that it make it possible to compare the effectiveness of measures aimed at attracting the fixing labor power to the effectiveness of measures aimed at an increase in labor productivity. Far from all of the migration models permit this to be done.⁴ Of the approaches which have been proposed in the literature note should be taken of the work of F.M. Borodkin and S.V. Soboleva who have proposed describing migration as a function of the total amount and structure of capital investments.⁵ This kind of approach, in our opinion, meets the requirements. At the same time, it has been embodied in a system of models which has been proposed by a collective of authors under the direction of Doctor of Economic Sciences F.M. Borodkin and which is based on a planning diagram being discussed.⁶

With all of its theoretical attractiveness, the above diagram has one important shortcoming. It does not take account of the demands of production upon the skills of the labor force, or of the presumed level of cadre training. In other words, the diagram is oriented only toward eliminating a quantitative deficit of labor resources. For areas which are undergoing new economic development--for example,

the BAM zone and the Angaro-Yenisey region--a consideration of these demands is, possibly, not of paramount importance. But for areas which experience a constant outflow of cadres this problem is very acute.

It is entirely possible to have a situation in which in order to eliminate a deficit of labor resources it would be advantageous to introduce new labor-saving technologies, but the low skill level of the existing labor force does not permit this to be done. In that case society would be compelled to undertake additional capital investments in the non-production sphere in order to establish or attract population and labor resources. Thus, the skill level of labor power is a factor of considerable importance which determines the possibilities for the introduction of scientific and technological progress, the distribution of capital investments, and the migrational exchange of population and, partly, even the demographic situation in a region. From this follows the necessity for developing a model which imitates changes in the skill structure of labor power, and for its inclusion in the system of regional planning and forecasting models.

The skill structure of labor power develops as a result of the action of the following processes: a) the entrance into the able-bodied age of new generations which have, as a rule, a higher level of education and skills; b) the exit from the able-bodied age of generations with a lower level of education and skills; c) training and skill improvement for the population in the able-bodied and pre-able-bodied ages; d) natural losses; e) migration exchange.

From here it can be seen that the skill structure of labor power is under the strong influence of demographic processes. There is no doubt that, apart from them, the process of the training and retraining of cadres is influenced by a large number of economic and socio-psychological limitations from the action of which we will for now abstract ourselves.

The processes of the replacement of generations and of the training of cadres could be described quite satisfactorily by a demographic model which has been integrated with a model of the rise in the level of education. At the present time several such models have been created in our country and are being successfully operated.⁸ Of all of the formulations which have been proposed, the most practical one has probably been a matrix model of the educational system, since it is most easily integrated with the method of age movement.

The Interconnection Between Educational Level and Population Migration in Forecast Calculations

In modeling the process of the reproduction of educational potential in a region a consideration of the interconnection between population migration and educational structure is a very important and to date unsolved problem. This problem was posed for the first time in the 1960's during the time of empirical surveys of rural migration which were carried out in Novosibirskaya and Kalininskaya oblasts.⁹ These studies established that the educational level of migrants is higher than the educational level of the population as a whole. The conclusion was drawn from this that education stimulates migrational mobility, particularly the outflow of population from villages into cities.¹⁰ If this is so, then the regional planning

diagram, at least for the village, has to be made more complicated. An attempt to improve the quality of labor power could lead to a decrease in its total quantity and, thereby, exacerbate the problem of the deficit of labor resources.¹¹ Two variables--educational level and the migrational mobility of the population--are closely interconnected with a third, namely, with age. Thus, as we move toward older age groups the average educational level becomes lower and the population outflow decreases. For this reason, among migrants there is a substantially higher proportion of population of the younger ages and, consequently, of the higher educational levels. In order to establish whether education does in fact increase the outflow of population it is necessary to construct outflow coefficients which are differentiated not only by levels of education, but also by age. Only in this case will we be able to decide whether our data contains a "false correlation," or whether such a dependency actually exists. Since the educational level of migrants is not recorded in our current statistics, the sought after coefficients can be obtained either on the basis of sample data, or of some kind of artificial method.

From 1974 through 1977 a sociological statistical survey of migrants was conducted in 157 populated points of Novosibirskaya Oblast. In all, 1,114 removals from the village and 588 arrivals into the village from the city were registered. The population outflow coefficients which were obtained on the basis of this data did not make it possible to confirm with complete certainty the hypothesis that there exists a connection between education and migrational mobility. The hypothesis to be verified clearly proved to be quite complex; for this reason, its verification requires much more statistical material than usually.

In addition, it is possible to attempt to obtain the necessary data on the basis of the results of the all-union population censuses of 1959, 1970, and 1979. The argumentation in this case could be as follows. After representing the process of the movement from one educational group to another as a Markov process, one could attempt to restore the matrix of movement probabilities by methods proposed by Ts. Li, D. Dzhadzh, and A. Zal'ner.¹² After this, from a matrix which describes movements over a period of 9-14 years one could extract the root of degree and obtain a matrix which describes movements over a period of one year. Here methods proposed by Coleman, and also Singler and Spilerman could be used.¹³ If the condition "departed from the region" were to be included in the set of conditions of the Markov model, then the matrix which is obtained in conclusion will contain the sought after outflow intensities for a population with different educational levels. However, we possess the results of only three censuses, which does not permit the restoration of the matrix of movement probabilities during the period between censuses.

Thus, we are now unable to give a final answer to the question of whether education stimulates the outflow of population from the village or not. In order to answer it it would be necessary either to conduct a very expensive empirical survey, or to obtain materials from two additional (at least) all-union population censuses.

Until the sought after coefficients are found population outflow coefficients (or migration balances) which are not differentiated by educational level will have to be used in regional forecasts of the reproduction of educational level. In order

to evaluate the errors which may occur as a result of this, we have constructed a retrospective forecast on the basis of the data of the 1970 all-union population census. A rural area in Western Siberia was chosen as the forecasting subject. The results of the forecast were compared to the results of the 1979 all-union population census. The error (in percentages) of the retrospective forecast of educational level is cited below. Thus, the forecasted educational level is somewhat lower than the actual one. This data indirectly refutes the hypothesis re-

Without complete secondary	With incomplete secondary	With secondary general	With higher and secondary specialized
+10.6	-6.6	-5.7	-17.2

garding the stimulating role of education.

Calculations have shown that the educational structure of a population can be forecast with an error comprising 10-17 percent over a period of nine years. In principle, accuracy could be increased by means of the introduction into the model of outflow coefficients (or migration balances) which are differentiated by educational level, but this requires overcoming the above-named difficulties.

Some Conclusions

A production development plan and a forecast of population reproduction in a rural area in Western Siberia was made up with the help of a system of models which realize the proposed diagram for planning labor resources in a region.¹⁴ It follows from these calculations that the region's agriculture is capable of providing the entire population of Western Siberia with food products in accordance with medical norms by 1995. In addition, it is capable of satisfying substantial planning assignments for the exportation of agricultural output outside of the region. In order to achieve these goals it will be necessary to maintain capital investment growth rates at the previous level and to work out a system of measures aimed at a certain acceleration of labor productivity growth rates.

The plan which has been worked out provides for a fundamental change in the field of investment distribution. The share of resources which are assigned to the non-production sphere has to be increased by 1.5-2 times compared to the presently existing one. This will make it possible to appreciably reduce the outflow of population from the village. In addition, a program for the introduction of scientific and technological progress and for increasing labor productivity can only be provided with qualified cadres if a number of urgent measures are carried out. In particular, it is essential to substantially expand the network of rural vocational and technical schools which provide universal vocational education for the rural youth. At the same time, serious attention has to be given to the retraining and reeducation of adults. Calculations show that the process of improving skill structure in the future can be substantially accelerated by increasing the birth rate at the present time.

In addition, the forecast which has been constructed makes it possible to draw a number of conclusions that are in need of additional verification. One of them is that it is wrong to connect measures aimed at increasing birth rate with the extensive method of economic development.¹⁵ An intensification of production presupposes the introduction of the achievements of scientific and technological progress on an ever expanding scale. And in order for a technical innovation to be used effectively there has to be a no less rapid increase in the educational potential, which is impossible in a situation with a low birth rate and a progressively aging population.

FOOTNOTES

1. L. Rybakovskiy, "Methodological Problems of Demographic Forecasting in a Region." In the book: "Human Population. Population and Economy," Moscow, Statistika, 1973, pp 3-16; Yu.M. Berezkin, "On Long-Term Population Forecasting," Izv. SO AN SSSR, No. 1, 1978, pp 12-20; B.S. Khorev and V.I. Ponomarenko, "Problems of Regional Demographic Forecasting." In the book: "Problems of Regional Demographic Forecasting in the System of National Economic Planning," Issue 12, Dushanbe, 1979, pp 14-26; "Territorial Characteristics of the Population of the RSFSR," Edited by L.L. Rybakovskiy, Moscow, Statistika, 1976.
2. "Economic Problems of the Development of Siberia. Methodological Problems of the Development and Siting of the Productive Forces," Novosibirsk, Nauka, 1974, p 262.
3. I.S. Matlin, "Modeling Population Siting," Moscow, Nauka, 1975, p 12.
4. N.N. Nozdrina, "The Use of the Methods of Systems Analysis in Studying Population Migration," Preprint, Moscow, VNIISI, 1978.
5. F.M. Borodkin and S.V. Soboleva, "A Socio-Economic Migration Model in the 'City-Village' System." In the book: "Mathematics and Sociology," Moscow, Mir, 1977.
6. V.M. Alferov, F.M. Borodkin, L.Kh. Polyak, and T.A. Fagradyan, "A System of 'Production-Population' Models For Forecasting the Socio-Economic Development of the Village," "Economics and Mathematical Methods," Vol. XV, Issue 5, 1979.
7. A village of Western Siberia can be cited as an example of such a territorial unit.
8. G.A. Zhyaunis and R.L. Rayatskas, "A Model for the Long-Term Forecasting of an Educational System." In the book: "Modeling Economic Systems," Edited by R.L. Rayatskas, Issue XII, Vilnius, 1977; N.A. Basalayeva, "Modeling Demographic Processes and Labor Resources," Moscow, Nauka, 1978, p 88; N.T. Nonkin and S.V. Soboleva, "Imitation Modeling of the Reproduction of Population Education." In the book: "Mathematical Modeling in Sociology (Methods and Tasks)," Novosibirsk, Nauka, 1977, pp 122-139.
9. "The Migration of Rural Population," edited by T.I. Zaslavskaya, Moscow, Mysl', 1970, p 348; "The Migration of Rural Population in the Central Economic Region," edited by V. S. Nemchenko, Moscow State University, 1971, p 123.

10. This conclusion has also received an indirect confirmation in the work by V.N. Ladenkov and N.D. Gorina, "A Social-Statistical Analysis of the Development of Agricultural Education in Siberia." In the book: "Socio-Economic Development of the Village and Population Migration," edited by T.I. Zaslavskaya and V.A. Kalmyk, Novosibirsk, 1972.
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DEMOGRAPHY

ENGINEERING PROFESSOR ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT RURAL RENEWAL

Moscow TRUD in Russian 21 Oct 81 p 2

[Interview with Georgiy Aleksandrovich Kuznetsov, doctor of economic sciences and consulting professor at the Moscow Land Management Engineering Institute, by special correspondent L. Savel'yeva: "Look Back When You Leave the Village"; date and place not given]

[Text] "The problems of rural renewal must be solved energetically and thoroughly, by searching for the necessary resources on the statewide level, in republics, krays and oblasts and on each kolkhoz and sovkhoz," the October (1980) CPSU Central Committee Plenum stressed. Much has been done to solve social problems in rural areas, but much still remains to be done. In letters to the editors our readers ask pertinent questions about rural development today. They write with sorrow about deserted villages and about the abandonment of the countryside by youth. Some of the letters are like confessions. These often come from former rural inhabitants. After failing to become urbanites, they are ready to return to the countryside, but how is this to be done? They write with alarm about the bland appearance of many rural villages and the unsuccessfully designed residential buildings.

We asked G. A. Kuznetsov, doctor of economic sciences and consulting professor at the Moscow Land Management Engineering Institute, to answer our readers' questions.

[Question] Georgiy Aleksandrovich, unpromising rural communities have been the subject of loud debates in the press and in the academic sphere. But the problem still exists. The young people of Dubovka village in Gor'kovskaya Oblast have asked for help: They do not have a club, store or library. The school is several kilometers away and the roads are bad. Everyone has forgotten about this village and the young people have no choice but to leave. Nikolay Agaryshkov, construction engineer from Kalininskaya Oblast, writes: "According to the plan, there will be 1,064 populated points in Kalininskaya Oblast. There are now 11,145. This means that more than 10,000 will disappear. This is the plan being used today; there is no other. Institutes are drawing up designs only for central farmsteads, and the bank finances construction only in large settlements. Therefore, it turns out that we have discussed the matter, we have unburdened our consciences, but we are still doing the same things and making the same mistakes."

[Answer] Not entirely. Public discussion has had some effect. Vigorous construction work is being conducted and roads and the necessary supply lines are being laid in "unpromising" rural communities in Vladimirskaya, Kaluzhskaya and Moscow Oblasts and in leading rayons in Belorussia, the Ukraine and Kazakhstan. And people are happy to live and work there.

[Question] But is this not being done on their own initiative and...against instructions?

[Answer] Unfortunately, this is precisely the case. A farm manager sometimes has to resort to amazing ruses and perform miracles of ingenuity to keep an unpromising rural settlement from perishing. After all, there is still no directive document to officially authorize construction and civic improvements in small villages, and this creates numerous difficulties! On the other hand, there is another document--the regional layout plan, the main defect of which is its lack of connection with the rural way of life and organization of production. Let us take the Nonchernozem Zone as an example: Many of the farms here have small fields and several animal husbandry facilities. It is no coincidence that the zone has many small communities: People have always wanted to live near their place of employment. What if everyone lived in one large settlement, as most of the existing layout plans propose? How would people travel dozens of kilometers to work? Would they go by tractor in bad weather? Production dictates its own rules and they cannot be cancelled by an arbitrary decision.

Today everyone realizes that serious mistakes were made in plans. But USSR Gosstroy is in no hurry to begin their efficient and energetic correction. Furthermore, the general population settlement plan also deals with problems of rural renewal unsatisfactorily: It is also based on the notorious assumption that unpromising rural communities should be liquidated. There is no question that it will be difficult to correct these mistakes, but it must be done, and as soon as possible. Defective plans are partially corrected by the passage of time, but this, I repeat, is a difficult process. And initiative alone does not stretch very far.

The regional layout plans, as we know, decide the short-term fate of the region and its farms. This is an important document and administrators must treat it with trust and respect. This is why everything in this plan must be carefully considered, investigated and reinforced with a sound knowledge of the actual situation. At present, however, problems in comprehensive regional planning are solved by specialists from more than 10 project planning institutes. Even the urban project planning institute is working on rural layout designs! These institutes work in isolation from one another, and each has its own approach and its own methods. Put yourself in a regional administrator's shoes: What should you do? Whose advice should you take? What usually happens is that the administrator files all procedural documents in the bottom of his desk and then acts according to his own experience. And this is what the scientists' contribution amounts to! The only solution is to unite the efforts of all project planners, economists and sociologists in the compilation of a single realistic and comprehensive regional layout plan, drawn up on the basis of profound scientific knowledge and experience.

[Question] Has there been any positive experience in the work in this field?

[Answer] Yes, in Belorussia, the Ukraine and some oblasts of the Nonchernozem Zone. The system of planning in the Lithuanian SSR is most interesting. Central and local interdepartmental commissions of highly qualified specialists have been set up. The drafters of layout plans maintain lively and close contacts with industrial, agricultural, transport and other regional organizations, both when measures are being planned and when they are being carried out. Specialists from the Lithuanian SSR State Institute for Land Management Planning began by determining the exact organization of production and, on this basis, drew up plans for settlement patterns, the construction of new settlements and the renewal of old ones. The inhabitants of small villages were not forced to move to larger ones. Their wishes were given top priority: They were encouraged to live wherever they wished. Roads were laid to these small settlements, and they were equipped with all the necessary facilities and conveniences. In general, this was a distinctly flexible and thoughtful approach. The important thing was that effective reserves for production growth and the improvement of the production structure were discovered during the course of regional inspections. Regional layout plans became the law for each administrator in matters of rural construction. This, and only this, is the proper approach to forecasting and planning!

[Question] Georgiy Aleksandrovich, in addition to the migration of the rural population to the cities, traffic in the other direction--migration from the cities--is also being seen. Sergey Ivanovich Vorontsov, worker at the Dormash Plant in Orlovo, was born and raised in the country. He has been living in the city for 10 years but he writes that he would return to the countryside if a farm there would offer him a place to live. He and many other readers want to know if there are any such farms.

[Answer] There are many such farms. Requests should be submitted to the agricultural administrations of Pskovskaya, Smolenskaya, Novgorodskaya and other oblasts in the Nonchernozem Zone or to the public job placement bureaus that are now operating in each oblast center. The problem, however, is that the information service is still inefficient and inexpert and needs improvement. Here is an example. Two years ago one of the central newspapers printed an article about the Oktyabr'skiy Sovkhoz in Kalininskaya Oblast. Letters from all parts of the country, with requests for work, flooded the sovkhoz. There is nothing extraordinary about the farm: Construction is being carried out energetically and residences have all the necessary conveniences. There are dozens of farms like this one in the same oblast, but people do not know about them. Obviously, the Ministry of Agriculture should have considered the establishment of a precise, efficient and comprehensive information service long ago.

[Question] There have been many complaints about rural construction. Many readers have commented on the low architectural standards of this construction and its bland and monotonous appearance.

[Answer] Sometimes the problem here is the same as in the case of the ill-advised population settlement plans: too much haste on the part of architects and an inadequate knowledge of the rural way of life. Often the standard plans for rural residences offer small entries and a minimum of out-buildings. Is this appropriate for the rural inhabitant? And what about multi-story buildings? They have been criticized, their construction in rural areas has slowed down, but they are still

being built. And what about, for example, homes with flat roofs? They are commonly called "bald." The roof has been the main decorative feature of the peasant home for ages. And for all this time, the gabled, hipped or domed roof with ornaments and intricate carving has never been more than twice as high as the size of the foundation, and whenever Russian carpenters built a home they adhered strictly to these proportions. Of course, there have also been successful designs, but it is not easy to find them: The albums of standard plans for rural homes are published infrequently and in small editions.

A great deal depends on regional architects and their qualifications and skill. There is this problem: People of the most varied professions fill this position--teachers, agronomists and technicians. In one oblast, I heard that a former hairdresser was courageously tackling this job. A regional architect with a higher education in this specialty is a rarity in the Nonchernozem Zone. But even experienced specialists have to perform dozens of other functions: from taking care of public utility breakdowns to participating in mass potato harvesting campaigns. At best, they have a chance to monitor the quality of construction work: There are generally no architectural and construction control inspectors in the rayons.

There is no question that rayons must be provided with expert architects. I feel that this is possible. Each year the graduates of schools of architecture "settle" in project planning institutes and dream about doing something creative. And this kind of creativity is precisely what our rural settlements need! It will also be necessary to heighten the responsibility of project planning organizations for product quality and of architects for their specific rural community. Who compiled the plan? The institute. After the general plan has been drawn up, nothing more is done. The path to the rural community has been forgotten, and everyone therefore builds whatever he wishes.... In general, there are many problems, and I presume that the upcoming plenum of the Architects' Union of the USSR will find effective solutions.

Now I would like to return to the letter from the young people in Dubovka. Do not be in a hurry to leave! You must stand up for your community. Yes, there is a world beyond its boundaries. But if you look back at the village when you are leaving it, you will see an entire world there too. It is a complex world and it has its difficulties, but it is your own. It is not at all necessary to lose this world in order to understand it and realize your own strong ties to it.

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